



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



362869

20 APR 2010

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

SE-5J

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL (DGUTIERREZ@DACCORDGROUP.COM &
DPORTER@RMHCCN.ORG)

Mr. David Gutierrez
D'Accord Group, LLC
309 West Washington, Suite 405
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Mr. Doug Porter, CEO
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana
1900 Spring Road, #310
Oak Brook, IL 60523

RE: Future Ronald McDonald House, 207/209/211 East Grand, Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Gutierrez and Mr. Porter:

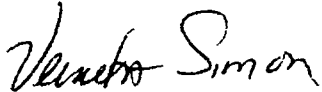
Thank you for meeting us on April 12 and for D'Accord's letter dated April 14, 2010. Given the age of the buildings demolished at 211 East Grand and the results of our radiation walk-over survey of the basement floor prior to demolition, U.S. EPA agrees that it is unlikely there is subsurface thorium contamination at this location.

As you know, we met with D'Accord back in November 2009 and conducted a walk-over radiation detection survey of the 211 East Grand building basement floor. In written correspondence dated November 16, 2009, we requested your demolition schedule and informed D'Accord that because of the building's proximity to thorium contamination in the area, we wanted to conduct another walk-over radiation detection survey in the basement after demolition and removal of the basement floor. Despite our request for your demolition schedule, we were not aware that you commenced construction/demolition activities in February 2010, until a concerned citizen inquired about your construction crane. As a result, we were not able to conduct the desired walk-over radiation survey of the material beneath the basement floor as you have already backfilled the area. Such a survey would have provided another opportunity to radiologically examine the property and provided greater assurance that thorium contamination below your building is unlikely.

At our recent meeting and in D'Accord's letter you agreed to provide the date(s) on which you will drill the geotechnical borings and will amend your geotechnical scope of work to include radiation monitoring of the borings and boreholes. Please provide the date to Mike Joyce, Gene Jablonowski and I, two weeks prior to testing so that we can arrange to be present. Additionally, we understand that you may intrude into subsurface soils in the alley behind your proposed building to support your construction activities; however, you will first meet with the City of Chicago to confirm such activities. After you meet with the City, please provide a written update to us regarding the disposition and extent of the alley work. Please include a detailed description of the work you plan to conduct in the alley including what you need to replace, whether you will intrude into subsurface soils, or use steel plates, etc. Additionally, please provide your AT&T contact, and inform us if AT&T will continue to provide overhead telephone service in the alley or if there are plans to begin below grade service. U.S. EPA is concerned that contamination may be present in the alley below the asphalt and radiation monitoring must be conducted when and if you intrude into alley subsurface soils.

If you need additional information, please either check www.epa.gov/region5/sites/lindsaylight/index.html or contact me at (312) 886-3601 or Mike Joyce, Community Involvement Coordinator, at (312) 353-5546 or Eugene Jablonowski, Superfund Health Physicist, (312) 886-4591. Please direct legal questions to Cathleen Martwick, Associate Regional Counsel, at (312) 886-7166 or to Mary Fulghum, Associate Regional Counsel, at (312) 886-4683.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Verneta Simon".

Verneta Simon
On-Scene Coordinator

cc: Eamon Reilly, Chicago Department of Environment
Paul Zalmezak, Chicago Department of Planning and Development

bcc: Mary Fulghum, C-14J
Eugene Jablonowski, SMF-5J
Mike Joyce, SI-7J
Debbie Keating, SE-5J
Cathleen Martwick, C-14J
Carl Norman, SE-5J